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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT 5th Bereitschaft in Weissenfels

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Information on the Weissenfels (M 52/J 99) Volkspolizei-bereitschaft:

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1. Designation: 5th Volkspolizeibereitschaft.

2. Activation: August 1949.

3. Quarters: Five kaserns buildings on Leitzer Strasse.

4. Strength: About 1,200 police.

5. Organization:

a. A Stabskommando and four Ausbildungskommandos (previously called companies). Each kommando had 250 men, and was organized into four Abteilungen (previously called platoons) Each Abteilung consisted of three Gruppen, subdivided into Halbgruppen.

b. Kommandos were commanded by Kommissare (second lieutenants) or Oberkommissare (first lieutenants) at the time of observation. According to new regulations, however, Kommandos were to be commanded by Polizeiräte (captains) and Abteilungen by Polizeikommissare.

c. Almost all personnel of the Stabskommandos were young activists.

6. Personnel:

Volkspolizeirat Teichfischer, CO of Bereitschaft (Oberpolizeirat Mayer, the previous CO, was demoted to the rank of Polizeimeister for unknown reasons and transferred to Apollensdorf (N 52/E 37) in December 1949).

Polizeimeister Loeber, CO of the Stabskommando

Oberkommissar Graf Schinski, CO of the 1st Kommando

Kommissar Fintsch, CO of the 2d Kommando

Oberkommissar Weissel, CO of the 3rd Kommando

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Oberkommissar Wetzol, PK-Leiter of the 1st Kommando
Kommissar Mandler, PK-Leiter of the 2d Kommando
Kommissar Goldfisch, PK-Leiter of the 3rd Kommando
Hauptwachtmeister Schoenich, leader of the 2a Kommando
Hauptwachtmeister Bartnizek, PK-Leiter of the 2a Kommando

The Bereitschaft was supervised by a Soviet officer with the rank of Oberpolizeirat.

7. Armament:

Soviet long-barreled guns, which were covered with canvas and stored in garages, not used in training.
Heavy, water-cooled machine guns, Maxim 08 type
Submachine guns, Model 44
Carbines, Model 98
Pistols, Model 38
Stick hand grenades, Model 28
Tanks allegedly to arrive soon.

8. Training:

a. After three weeks of service, policemen had to sign up for three years, in the presence of Oberkommissar Wetzol. Drill and arms training were started thereafter.

b. The Stabskommando underwent special training. It was allegedly to be the cadre for a police school to be established in Zeitz (M 52/K 08).

9. Miscellaneous: The nearest Polizeischule was in Naumburg (M 52/J 89). It is said that only officer candidates are being trained there and that they have a rigid schedule. Other Polizeischulen are scheduled to be established.

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